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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO.

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO. [REDACTED]

COUNTRY India

DATE DISTR. 22 June 1950

SUBJECT New General Secretary of the Communist Party
of India (CPI)

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Rajeshwar Rao, a Joshi-ite of the Andhra Communist Party group, is definitely the new General Secretary of the Communist Party of India (CPI)*.

25X1A * [REDACTED] Comment. [REDACTED] reported that B. T. Ranadive had been removed as General Secretary of the CPI but did not name his successor. Very little is known to this office concerning Rajeshwar Rao. He does not appear to be or to have been a member of the CPI Politburo or of the CPI Central Committee. A brief article in the rainbow Weekly, published in Secunderabad, on 14 September 1949 does however associate him with the Andhra Communist Party.

25X1A [REDACTED] Comment. A press release datelined Bombay, 15 June 1950, by the Press Trust of India stated that Rajeshwar Rao is expected to succeed Ranadive as CPI General Secretary. The release also stated that the CPI will abandon the policy of violence, that P. C. Joshi is expected to resume a leading position in the party, and that the CPI politburo will meet in July "somewhere in India." It is possible that the informant might have secured his information, directly or indirectly, from this release.

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.

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